

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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| <b>Applicants:</b>  | Piepenbrink <i>et al.</i>  | <b>Conf. No.:</b>  | 5994                           |
| <b>Serial No.:</b>  | 09/886,160   | <b>Art Unit:</b>   | 3629                           |
| <b>Filing Date:</b> | 06/21/2001   | <b>Examiner:</b>   | Brooks, Matthew L.             |
| <b>Title:</b>       | METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR<br>MANAGING A RELATIONSHIP WITH<br>A VENTURE COMPANY | <b>Docket No.:</b> | END920010038US1<br>(IBME-0018) |

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

**I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action dated March 14, 2008. Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 16 of this paper.